What's new at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc. View this email in your browser

Newsletter #130:

What's New at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

Hello everyone! I write this newsletter as I head from Munich to Osnabrück by train. I've just spent time viewing the upcoming Gorny & Mosch auction. I'll describe a bit below on that. My next auction viewing is Künker 326 (ancients). I've been studying the catalog and look forward to seeing some interesting pieces. Last week I was fortunate to attend the NAC auctions in Zurich and before that Roma in London. The Roma auction was grueling with over 13 hours of bidding off and on. You can feel bad for me but just think how the poor folks at Roma were feeling! By the end of the auction Richard Beale had largely lost his voice. Luckily the auction seemed to be a great success. NAC 116 was incredibly strong with the first part of a presumably five part series. I was able to get some stunning pieces for customers.

Künker 326 (Oct 7-8)

Künker 326 is the first of several auctions that the German powerhouse will have during the second week of October. I will be attending most of the auctions (leaving on the 11th) but I will just discuss the ancient coins. If you are interested in world coins please do let me know as I can view and bid on them as well.

The first part of the sale features the third part of the Dr. W.R. collection of Greek coins of Northern Greece, the Cyclades and Crete. There are many reasonably priced and nice pieces being offered. Following this is the Phoibos Collection which features coins from the ancient world and a collection of a person named "eines norddeutschen Antikenfreundes" (a Northern German friend of antiques).

I'm still in the process of viewing the coins but I've noticed a lot of really nice pieces with some pedigrees dating way back to the 1800's.

Remember that Künker does **NOT** offer live online bidding for their floor auctions. You will need to either place bids earlier, phone bid or be on the floor. Should you want representation please reach out soon.

Gorny & Mosch 265 (Oct 14-15)

G&M is conducting their 265th auction on October 14 and 15 with 1,603 coins. The catalog features several Greek coins from a "private southern German collection". Also included are some lovely Republican coins from the collection of a person with the initials "H.I.". Later lots have a nice selection of Jewish and Philitian coins from the Shlomo Moussaieff collection. Parts of this collection were auctioned off in the U.S. a year or two ago so there is obviously an extensive group of pieces. The sale closes with the first part of a Greek Imperial collection and a group of sestertius.

I viewed the G&M material before I came to Osnabrück so while I won't be in Munich for the auction I will be participating by phone and internet back home.

Nomos 19 (Nov 17)

I was able to view Nomos 19 during my short stay in Zurich. While the catalogs are not yet finished the coins were mostly there and in lot order. The featured collection has some stunning pieces. I mainly focused on the Greek portion during my visit and I was impressed by the quality and the pedigrees of some lots. Once the catalogs come out if anyone is interested in bidding please let me know. I plan to bid by phone for this auction as I viewed the material.

Coin of the Week

The Civil Wars. Southern Gaul (?). 68-69 AD
AR Denarius, 3.60g (18mm, 7h). Diademed and draped bust of Jupiter l., with small palm branch in front / Vesta, veiled, seated l. on throne, holding patera and long torch.

Pedigree: Ex Kampmann Maison Platt 9-10 March 1982, Nicolas, 214 and Sotheby's 19-20 June 1991, Hunt IV, 707 sales. From the George C. Hopkins collection

References: C Galba 432. Martin 95 (this obverse die). RIC 125a

Grade: Very rare. Of lovely style and with a superb old cabinet tone and Good VF

Price: $5,500

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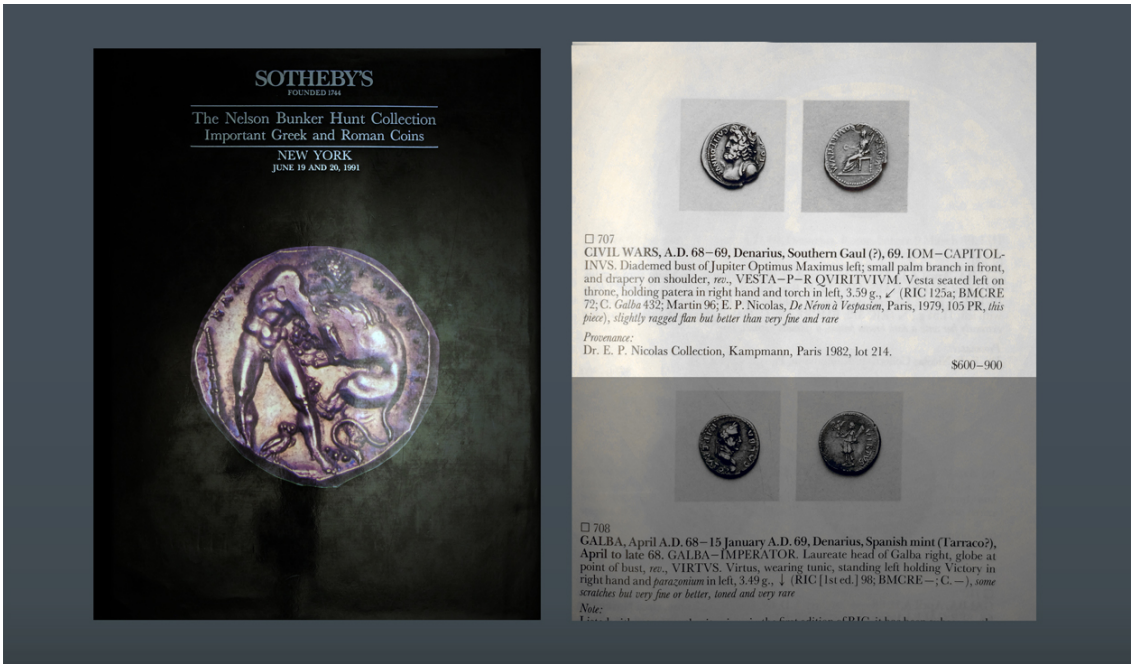

Buy Coin

The year following Emperor Nero's death was filled with a quick succession of four rulers and what can only be termed as a frantic race for power. Once Nero felt the world coming down around him he took his own life, becoming the first emperor to commit suicide. The governor of Hispania Tarraconensis, Servius Sulpicius Galba, already 70 years old, became Nero's successor. At first it was a shocking revelation that someone outside of Rome could be made emperor. Up until that point the Julio Claudian Dynasty were in power beginning with

Augustus. The first five emperors were connected in some familial way. The Civil War of 69 AD brought rulers from separate families and from various parts of the Roman world. After Galba's murder in the Forum at Rome in January 69 he was quickly replaced by Otho, a companion of Nero on the same day. Otho was governor of Lusitania under Nero, and strangely also one of the first to declare his support for the elderly Galba. Unfortunately Galba made errors in selecting a successor as his own two sons died prior to his ascending the throne. Additionally, his lack of support amongst the Praetorian Guard led to his downfall.

The next emperor Otho already aroused suspicion amongst the Senate primarily because he was a close friend to Otho. So close were the two that Otho's beautiful wife Poppaea, soon became the wife of Nero. Unfortunately for Poppaea, her new husband proved to be her downfall as he purportedly kicked her in the stomach while pregnant with their child, killing both her and their unborn child. Upon taking office, Otho began to restore the statues of Nero hoping to gain the allegiance of some of his surviving supporters. Around the time that Otho took office and the downfall of Galba, Vitellius rose to power amongst the Upper and Lower German armies. Tacticus speaks ill of Vitellius and suggested that "seldom has the support of the army been gained by any man through honourable means to the degree that he (Vitellius) won it through his worthlessness". Vitellius apparently was a man at the right place at the right time. He had no military accomplishments and this may have been precisely the reason why he was selected. Vitellius was not a leader and took full advantage of his newfound power. At the same time of his accession, the armies of the East selected Vespasian as their chosen emperor. Eventually Vespasian and his men entered Rome and had Vitellius killed. So came the end of the Civil War that last one year almost to the day. Vespasian started the Flavian Dynasty that lasted until the death of his son Domitian in 96 AD.

https://www.shannaschmidt.com/roman-empire/domitian-as-augustus-81-96-ad-rome?rq=re1096

If you are interested in this coin please click the link above or email me at shanna@shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
Shanna

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mailchimp